

applicant for employment for inspection upon request. The location and hours during which the program may be obtained shall be posted at each establishment.

§ 60-300.42 Invitation to self-identify.

(a) *Disabled veterans.* The contractor shall invite applicants to inform the contractor whether the applicant believes that he or she is a disabled veteran who may be covered by the Act and wishes to benefit under the affirmative action program. Such invitation shall be extended after making an offer of employment to a job applicant and before the applicant begins his or her employment duties, except that the contractor may invite disabled veterans to self-identify prior to making a job offer when:

(1) The invitation is made when the contractor actually is undertaking affirmative action for disabled veterans at the pre-offer stage; or

(2) The invitation is made pursuant to a Federal, state or local law requiring affirmative action for disabled veterans.

(b) *Recently separated veterans, other protected veterans, and Armed Forces service medal veterans.* The contractor shall invite applicants to inform the contractor whether the applicant believes that he or she is a recently separated veteran, other protected veteran, or Armed Forces service medal veteran who may be covered by the Act and wishes to benefit under the affirmative action program. Such invitation may be made at any time before the applicant begins his or her employment duties.

(c) The invitations referenced in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall state that a request to benefit under the affirmative action program may be made immediately and/or at any time in the future. The invitations also shall summarize the relevant portions of the Act and the contractor's affirmative action program. Furthermore, the invitations shall state that the information is being requested on a voluntary basis, that it will be kept confidential, that refusal to provide it will not subject the applicant to any adverse treatment, and that it will not be used in a manner inconsistent with

the Act. (An acceptable form for such an invitation is set forth in Appendix B of this part. Because a contractor usually may not seek advice from a disabled veteran regarding placement and accommodation until after a job offer has been extended, the invitation set forth in Appendix B of this part contains instructions regarding modifications to be made if it is used at the pre-offer stage.)

(d) If an applicant so identifies himself or herself as a disabled veteran, the contractor should also seek the advice of the applicant regarding proper placement and appropriate accommodation, after a job offer has been extended. The contractor also may make such inquiries to the extent they are consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), 42 U.S.C. 12101, (e.g., in the context of asking applicants to describe or demonstrate how they would perform the job). The contractor shall maintain a separate file in accordance with § 60-300.23(d) on persons who have self-identified as disabled veterans.

(e) The contractor shall keep all information on self identification confidential. The contractor shall provide the information to OFCCP upon request. This information may be used only in accordance with this part.

(f) Nothing in this section shall relieve the contractor of its obligation to take affirmative action with respect to those applicants or employees who are known to the contractor to be disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, other protected veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans.

(g) Nothing in this section shall relieve the contractor from liability for discrimination under the Act.

§ 60-300.43 Affirmative action policy.

Under the affirmative action obligations imposed by the Act contractors shall not discriminate because of status as a disabled veteran, recently separated veteran, other protected veteran, or Armed Forces service medal veteran and shall take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, other protected veterans, and Armed Forces service medal veterans at all levels of

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employment, including the executive level. Such action shall apply to all employment activities set forth in § 60-300.20.

§ 60-300.44 Required contents of affirmative action programs.

Acceptable affirmative action programs shall contain, but not necessarily be limited to, the following ingredients:

(a) *Policy statement.* The contractor shall include an equal opportunity policy statement in its affirmative action program, and shall post the policy statement on company bulletin boards. The contractor must ensure that applicants and employees who are disabled veterans are informed of the contents of the policy statement (for example, the contractor may have the statement read to a visually disabled individual, or may lower the posted notice so that it may be read by a person in a wheelchair). The policy statement should indicate the chief executive officer's attitude on the subject matter, provide for an audit and reporting system (see paragraph (h) of this section) and assign overall responsibility for the implementation of affirmative action activities required under this part (see paragraph (i) of this section). Additionally, the policy should state, among other things, that the contractor will: recruit, hire, train and promote persons in all job titles, and ensure that all other personnel actions are administered, without regard to disabled veteran, recently separated veteran, other protected veteran, or Armed Forces service medal veteran status; and ensure that all employment decisions are based only on valid job requirements. The policy shall state that employees and applicants shall not be subjected to harassment, intimidation, threats, coercion or discrimination because they have engaged in or may engage in any of the following activities:

(1) Filing a complaint;

(2) Assisting or participating in an investigation, compliance evaluation, hearing, or any other activity related to the administration of the affirmative action provisions of the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended (VEVRAA) or any other Federal, state

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or local law requiring equal opportunity for disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, other protected veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans;

(3) Opposing any act or practice made unlawful by VEVRAA or its implementing regulations in this part or any other Federal, state or local law requiring equal opportunity for disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, other protected veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans; or

(4) Exercising any other right protected by VEVRAA or its implementing regulations in this part.

(b) *Review of personnel processes.* The contractor shall ensure that its personnel processes provide for careful, thorough, and systematic consideration of the job qualifications of applicants and employees who are known disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, other protected veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans for job vacancies filled either by hiring or promotion, and for all training opportunities offered or available. The contractor shall ensure that when a disabled veteran, recently separated veteran, other protected veteran, or Armed Forces service medal veteran is considered for employment opportunities, the contractor relies only on that portion of the individual's military record, including his or her discharge papers, that is relevant to the requirements of the opportunity in issue. The contractor shall ensure that its personnel processes do not stereotype disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, other protected veterans, and Armed Forces service medal veterans in a manner which limits their access to all jobs for which they are qualified. The contractor shall periodically review such processes and make any necessary modifications to ensure that these obligations are carried out. A description of the review and any necessary modifications to personnel processes or development of new processes shall be included in any affirmative action programs required under this part. The contractor must design procedures that facilitate a review of the implementation of this requirement by the contractor and the Government. (Appendix C of this part is an example of